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USAID/OFDA Quarterly Program Performance Report

Program Title: Urgent WASH and shelter support for conflict-affected households in Northern Iraq.

Project Dates: January 1st 2015 – June 30th 2015

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Country/Region:	Iraq
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This programme is focusing on WASH and shelter interventions for conflict-affected households in the Semel District of Kurdish Region of Iraq (KR-I).

This quarter, Tearfund completed post-distribution monitoring (PDMs) of cash grants that were distributed in the first quarter of the project. PDMs showed that 86% of families felt better prepared to face the harsh winter conditions, and 71% spent at least a proportion of the cash on Winterization NFIS. 21% spent at least a proportion of the cash on shelter improvement for winter.

Also in this quarter, Tearfund completed WASH programming with all 798 selected families. This included completing distribution of pit digging kits, provision of latrine slabs and cabins, distribution of hand washing stations, distribution of jerry cans, dissemination of hygiene promotion messages and materials, and distribution of hygiene kits.

In May 2015, as Tearfund had reached its WASH targets but project objectives had not fully been realized, it was decided in consultation with OFDA/Iraq and OFDA/Washington to re-program the under-spend associated with this sector to further unconditional cash transfers for summerization. The cash transfer amount was agreed with the local government at \$225 per household in order to align with the Shelter Cluster suggested shelter summerization kit value. Tearfund completed selection and verification of 530 households in June 2015 and transferred the cash the same month. Post distribution monitoring will take place in July and August 2015.

SECTOR 1: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Objective 1: To provide access to sanitation facilities and increase good hygiene practices amongst conflict-affected communities.

Table 1: Summary of project activities planned and executed 04/01/2015 – 06/30/2015

Activity	Progress/Achievement
Sub sector 1: Hygiene Promotion	
What was the planned activity?	What progress/achievements were made?
Hygiene Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following on from the baseline, specific hygiene messages were identified and materials produced in May 2015. Hygiene Promotion Assessors were trained in May 2015 and disseminated the messages to IDP communities in early June 2015. Hygiene promotion materials were distributed to communities in June 2015. Messages focused on safe excreta disposal, hand washing, keeping the latrine environment clean and safe water extraction.
Water Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tearfund under-took follow-up water testing in June, but the results were deemed to be reliable. Therefore further testing is planned for July as part of ongoing project monitoring.
Sub sector 2: Sanitation Infrastructure	
Household Latrine Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 400 IDP households were selected as beneficiaries for this activity. These 400 households cover 573 families with a total of 3,686 individuals. A latrine design was completed and approved after discussions with local Mokhtars and beneficiaries. This latrine design was demonstrated in each community. Tearfund completed distribution of digging kits to households in April, and all households dug their own pits following a demonstration from Tearfund project staff. A tender process to select suppliers for the latrine slabs and cabins was completed in April, and all slabs and cabins were delivered to each family in May and June. Tearfund's WASH Engineer has supervised the process of latrine construction with each household, ensuring that siting has adhered to SPHERE standards, and that contracts have been signed with landowners and households that include instructions on how to decommission the pit in the case of moving the latrine.
Hand washing Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A tender process to select suppliers for the hand washing stations was completed in May and distributions took place in June. Each household who had received a latrine received a hand washing station.

Table 2: Impact Indicator Progress

Indicators	Baseline	Target	Progress this quarter	Cumulative Progress to date
Sub Sector 1 : Hygiene Promotion				

Indicator 1	Number of people receiving direct hygiene promotion.	0	4648	1,067	1,067
Indicator 2	Number of respondents who know 3 of 5 critical times to wash hands.	2050	4183	These indicators will be assessed via end line surveys in July	0
Indicator 3	Number of households with soap and water at a hand washing location.	56	380		0
Indicator 4	Number of households who store their drinking water safely in clean containers.	219	342		0
Indicator 5	Number of households with drinking water supplies with FRC (trace).	82	342		0
Sub Sector 2 : Sanitation Infrastructure					
Indicator 1	Number of people directly benefiting from the sanitation infrastructure program.	0	5600	3,686	3,686 (See challenges and constraints section below.)
Indicator 2	Number of households with no evidence of faeces in the living area.	90	380	These indicators will be assessed via end line surveys in July.	0
Indicator 3	Number of people who report proper disposal of faeces last time they defecated.	4259	5320		0
Indicator 4	Number of people who report using a latrine the last time they defecated.	2523	5600		0
Indicator 5	Number of household latrines completed and clean.	0	380		0
Indicator 6	Number of people per useable latrine.	29.3	14	9.1	9.1
Indicator 7	Number of hand washing facilities in use.	56	400	400 hand washing facilities have been distributed. End line surveys taken in July will determine how many are in use.	0

SECTOR 2: Logistics Support and Relief Commodities.

Objective 2: To respond to the immediate need for hygiene items for IDPs displaced by conflict, and to ensure winterization NFIs are able to be purchased.

Table 3: Summary of project activities planned and executed 04/01/2015 –06/30/2015

Activity	Progress/Achievement
Sub Sector 1: Non-Food Items	
What was the planned activity?	What progress/achievements were made?
1. Procurement of Jerry Cans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procurement of jerry cans was completed in May and distributions took place in May and June.
2. Vouchers for hygiene kits distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tearfund encountered challenges in the use of hygiene vouchers, and so the decision was taken to move to an in-kind distribution of hygiene

Activity	Progress/Achievement
	kits. Hygiene kits were procured and distributed in June. (See Challenges and Constraints section below.)
3. Selection of beneficiaries and disbursement of cash payments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 530 households met the criteria for cash for summerization. \$225 per family was disbursed in June 2015. Post distribution monitoring will take place in July.
4. Monitoring and evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post distribution monitoring of cash disbursements for winterization took place in April via surveys and focus group discussions. The same post distribution monitoring of cash for summerization will take place in July. Analysis of this data will be provided in the final report.

Table 4: Impact Indicator Progress

Indicators		Baseline	Target	Progress this quarter	Cumulative Progress to date
Sub Sector 1 : Non-Food Items					
Indicator 1	Total number and per item USD value of cash/vouchers distributed for NFIs, by type.	Cash for Winterization: 0	Cash: 457 HHs (average \$525 per HH)	0	480 HH (average of \$502 per HH)
		Cash for Summerization: 0	Cash: 450 HHs (\$250 per HH)	530 HH (\$225 per HH)	530 HH (\$225 per HH)
		Hygiene Kit Vouchers: 0	Hygiene Kit Vouchers: 800 HHs, \$25 per HH	0 (however, 822 hygiene kits to the value of \$25 were distributed in June)	0 (however, 822 hygiene kits to the value of \$25 were distributed in June)
Indicator 2	Number of people receiving NFIs, by sex and type.	Cash (Winterization): 0	Cash: 2,742	0	2,934 1,476 M 1,458 F
		Cash (Summerization): 0	Cash: 2,700	3,397 1,642 M 1,755 F	3,397 1,642 M 1,755 F
		Hygiene Kit Vouchers: 0	Hygiene Kits: 5,600	4,139 (sex disaggregation will be provided in final report)	4,139 (sex disaggregation will be provided in final report)

SECTOR 3: Shelter

Objective 3: To ensure basic winterized shelter for IDPs displaced by conflict.

Table 5: Summary of project activities planned and executed 04/01/2015 – 06/30/2015

Activity	Progress/Achievement
Sub Sector 1: Emergency/Transitional Shelter	
1. Beneficiary selection	• Completed in quarter 2.
2. Selection of traders	• Completed in quarter 2.
3. Disbursement of sealing off vouchers	• Completed in quarter 2.
4. Redemption of sealing off vouchers	• Completed in quarter 2.
5. Monitoring and Evaluation	• Post Distribution Monitoring took place in April via a survey of a statistical sample of 196 households. Analysis of this data will be included in the final report.

Table 6: Impact Indicator Progress

Indicators		Baseline	Target	Progress this quarter	Cumulative Progress to date
Sub Sector 1 : Emergency/Transitional Shelter					
Indicator 1	Number of households in the program area receiving emergency/transitional shelter ¹ .	0	400	0	400
Indicator 2	Number of individuals in the programme area receiving cash-vouchers for sealing-off kits, by sex.	0	2400	0	2401 1191 F 1210 M

CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

Household size for latrines:

The design of this project was based on needs assessment data from October 2014 which inferred that related families were in general living side by side and would be ready and willing to share a latrine. This meant that proposed beneficiary numbers were expected to be 14 per latrine. However, as beneficiary selection for latrines took place, it became clear that this is not always the case. Therefore in some cases, families were selected to receive a latrine but due to cultural reasons, Tearfund could not then ask them to share this with their neighbours who were unrelated. Due to the use of vulnerability criteria during the selection process, some small families were selected. These two issues have resulted in lower than expected beneficiary numbers – the average per latrine is now 6.35. This assumes

¹ Emergency/transitional shelter is defined as cash vouchers for sealing-off kits

that those families that are sharing latrines have not encountered any issues with this arrangement – this will be followed up further during the end line survey in July.

Hygiene vouchers:

In order to provide beneficiaries with the best possible hygiene solutions, Tearfund planned to supply hygiene vouchers which could be redeemed with pre-selected vendors of hygiene items. However, given the issues Tearfund encountered with the sealing-off kit vouchers, extra security conditions needed to be in place – staff needed to be able to supervise voucher redemption. There was also the additional issue of the low monetary value of the vouchers meaning that beneficiaries were not willing to spend additional money on travel to traders. Therefore, the concept of a voucher fair seemed the best solution. This would mean that pre-selected vendors would set up mobile shops in villages for a day, allowing Tearfund to provide staff to oversee the process, and also reducing travel costs for beneficiaries.

Tearfund initiated vendor selection for the voucher fairs, but struggled to find vendors with sufficient choice of goods willing and able to provide a mobile shop for the fair. After visiting 18 suppliers in 3 different locations around the project sites, it was decided to move to an in-kind distribution instead. The contents of the hygiene kit were decided using the WASH cluster guidelines, and incorporating feedback from the Tearfund project team, in order to ensure that the kit was as tailored to the beneficiary needs as possible. Kits were procured through a tender process in June, and distributed in the same month. Because of the earlier issues in the sharing of latrines (see the above point), 800 kits were still procured, but the distribution of these was calculated against household size – households of 9 or more members received 2 hygiene kits.

Use of Last Mile Mobile Solution (LMMS):

For this project, Tearfund piloted the use of LMMS – a software which allows the user to track project inputs and beneficiary data. The software took some time to procure from World Vision International (WVI) as Tearfund had to wait for WVI to have a representative in Iraq to supply it, which meant that it was not able to be used at the beneficiary selection stage. LMMS was used at distribution stage for hand washing stations and hygiene kits, and proved very useful. Tearfund intends to continue to use LMMS in future projects and now that the software is licensed to Tearfund, it can be used from the start of beneficiary selection, allowing it to be utilised to its full extent.